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EAST-WEST GERMANY - USSR: East Germany is evidently under growing Soviet pressure to achieve results in the inter-German phase of the Berlin agreement negotiations.

West German officials sense that East German negotiator Kohl's interest in progress at the talks on 27-28 October derived from the need to present concrete results to Brezhnev, who arrived in East Berlin on 30 October. A day earlier, the post of Soviet ambassador to East Germany, which had been allowed to remain vacant for weeks, was filled with the arrival in Pankow of M. T. Yefremov, previously a deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers. Yefremov will be in position to watch over East German negotiating tactics.

The West German officials continue to assert that the inter-German talks are too complex and technical to be completed before early next year. They still claim that the negotiations are in the feeling-out stage and that most of the difficult political problems remain to be resolved. In this regard, they note that Kohl has remained energetic in his effort to gain West German recognition of East Germany's claims of sovereignty.

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INDIA-PAKISTAN: Both countries continue to vie for international attention and support.

Soviet Deputy Defense Minister Kutakhov arrived in New Delhi on Saturday for what Indian officials are billing as a routine visit scheduled in October at the height of the Indo-Pakistani military buildup on the borders. [redacted]

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[redacted] Kutakhov, who is also commander in chief of the Soviet Air Force, would likely assess India's defense requirements, especially for its air force, during his six-day visit.

This latest Soviet delegation follows only three days after the departure of Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Firyubin. [redacted]

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[redacted] India's Defense Minister Swaran Singh recently told selected journalists that in coming months the USSR and India would exchange a number of delegations dealing with economic and nuclear matters.

India is becoming more willing to reveal the extent of border clashes. According to the press, on Saturday the Defense and Foreign ministries held the first of what will reportedly be daily "situation" briefings. In accusing the Pakistanis of hundreds of border violations on both the east and west fronts during the last month, the government admitted for the first time that Indian Army troops have been engaged in fighting on the eastern border. Previously, the government had claimed that only Border Security Forces were involved in such skirmishes.

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In Pakistan, President Yahya Khan issued a public statement on 30 October in which he again urged Pakistani refugees--both Hindu and Moslem--to return home from India, and offered unspecified amounts of financial assistance to help in their rehabilitation. Probably in an effort to compete with the Indian version of the refugee situation currently being expounded by Prime Minister Gandhi on her foreign tour, Yahya insisted that "genuine refugees" total only slightly over two million, rather than the 9.5 million claimed by New Delhi. Yahya proposed that an impartial international body inspect refugee camps in India.

Mrs. Gandhi, now on an official visit in the UK, is scheduled to meet with Secretary General Thant on Wednesday at the UN and is likely to express India's opposition to any UN initiatives other than an attempt to seek a settlement of the internal conflict in Pakistan.

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USSR-CUBA: The Soviet naval task group that has been operating in the Atlantic arrived at Havana yesterday to begin a scheduled ten-day visit to Cuba. The five-ship group is made up of a Kresta-class cruiser, a Kashin-class destroyer, two F-class diesel-powered attack submarines, and a tanker. Since leaving the Mediterranean three weeks ago, these ships have been conducting training operations that included ASW maneuvers and reconnaissance of the US carrier Saratoga as it was headed toward Bermuda. If this task group follows previous Soviet practice, it probably will make several port calls and perform training maneuvers south of Cuba and in the Gulf of Mexico. Two Soviet TU-95 naval reconnaissance planes that flew to Cuba on 27 October were still at nearby Jose Marti airfield when the ships arrived at Havana.

\* \* \* \*

CEYLON: The International Monetary Fund is sending a special review team to Colombo next week to examine Ceylon's precarious financial situation. The government, with less than \$60 million in foreign exchange reserves and another trade deficit expected next year, is obligated to repay about \$200 million in short-term debt during 1972.

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Approximately half of the debt, which may be difficult to reschedule.

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